

1 What is claimed is:

2 1. A method for enabling a computer to select a set of printer driver settings for a
3 printing application, wherein sets of printer driver settings have been created and
4 stored, each set being attached with a respective label illustrating its general aspect,
5 comprising the steps of:

6 selecting a first label from a list of these respective labels;

7 searching the stored sets of printer driver settings for one set whose respective
8 label conforms to the first label; and

9 defining the conforming printer driver settings as current printer driver settings
10 for the printing application.

11 2. The method of claim 1, wherein the step of defining the current printer settings
12 includes the step of editing the conforming printer driver settings according to
13 requirements of the printing application.

14 3. The method of claim 2, wherein the conforming printer driver settings are
15 modified through a printer driver dialog box displayed by the computer.

16 4. The method of claim 1, wherein a first set of printer driver settings is defined
17 to be specific to a particular printing application.

18 5. The method of claim 4, wherein filename of the printing application is
19 piggybacked to the first set of printer driver settings such that the first set of printer
20 driver settings is defined to be specific to the particular printing application.

21 6. A network for enabling sets of public printer driver settings being shared out,
22 comprising:

23 a host computer having a public memory unit for storing sets of public printer
24 driver settings; and

25 at least one client computer connected to the host computer via the network,
26 wherein upon a printing application being fired in the client computer, the client
27 computer retrieves an appropriate set of public printer driver settings from the public
28 storage area by calling the host computer.

29 7. The network of claim 6, wherein the host computer further has a host private
30 memory unit for storing sets of private printer driver settings for administrators of the
31 host computer.

1 8. The network of claim 6, wherein the client computer has a client memory unit
2 for storing sets of private printer driver settings for users of the client computer.

3 9. The network of claim 8, wherein each set of public printer driver settings or
4 private printer driver settings is attached with a respective label that indicates its
5 general aspect.

6 10. The network of claim 9, wherein the client memory unit has a plurality of
7 private storage area for the users, a first user being able to access a personal private
8 storage area.

9 11. The network of claim 10, wherein the first user creates a personal list that
10 includes labels of all the sets of public printer driver settings and labels of those sets
11 stored in the personal private storage area.

12 12. The network of claim 11, wherein when a printing application is fired on the
13 client computer, the first user selects a first label from the personal list.

14 13. The network of claim 12, wherein if the first label represents a particular set of
15 public printer driver settings, the client computer retrieves the particular set of public
16 printer driver settings from the public storage area by calling the host computer.

17 14. The network of claim 12, wherein if the first label represents a particular set of
18 private printer driver settings, the client computer retrieves the particular set of private
19 printer driver settings from the personal client private storage area.

20 15. The network of claim 6, further comprising a printer connected to the host
21 computer, wherein the client computer prints to the printer via the network.